

## HOUSE JOINT RESOLUTION 245

By Niceley

A RESOLUTION relative to the transporting and processing of horses and other equine.

WHEREAS, the processing of horses has become a controversial and emotional issue and has resulted in the closing of all horse processing facilities throughout the United States; and

WHEREAS, federal legislation has been introduced to amend the 1970 Horse Protection Act to prohibit the shipping, transporting, moving, delivering, receiving, possessing, purchasing, selling, or donation of horses and other equines for processing and other purposes; and

WHEREAS, the loss of secondary markets has severely impacted the livestock industry by eliminating the salvage value of horses and has significantly reduced the market value of all horses; and

WHEREAS, prohibitions regarding the processing of horses have resulted in a significant increase in abandoned and starving animals and have had significant economic impact on the entire equine industry; and

WHEREAS, the increase in unwanted or unusable horses has overwhelmed private animal welfare agencies and the public's ability to care for surplus domestic horses; and

WHEREAS, the annual number of unwanted or unusable surplus domestic horses is estimated to be 100,000, and continues to increase; and

WHEREAS, issues related to the humane handling and slaughter of surplus domestic horses are best addressed by proper regulations and inspection and not by banning or exporting the issues; and

WHEREAS, state agriculture and rural leaders recognize the necessity and benefit of a state's ability to direct the transport and processing of horses; now, therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF THE ONE HUNDRED SIXTH GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF TENNESSEE, THE SENATE CONCURRING, that this General Assembly hereby memorializes the United States Congress to oppose H.R. 305 and H.R. 503 of the 111<sup>th</sup> Congress and any other federal legislation that interferes with a state's ability to direct the transport or processing of horses and other equine.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Chief Clerk of the House of Representatives be instructed to prepare and transmit a properly enrolled copy of this resolution to the President and the Secretary of the United States Senate, the Speaker and the Clerk of the United States House of Representatives, and each member of the Tennessee Congressional delegation.